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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

S/S

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

POLAND

Press Guidance (2:00 p.m. December 13)

Basic documents are Secretary Haig's statement in Brussels at 4:00 p.m. and Dean Fischer's earlier statement (SECTO 15068)

Any further speculation about developments in Poland should be avoided.

In addition to the points made by the Secretary in his statement, in answer to questions he made the following points, which may be drawn on:

— on his onward travel plans: he expects to make a decision tonight; his presence might be required in Washington. (further comment should come from the Secretary's party)

— on Soviet foreknowledge of events in Poland: the Secretary noted the strident rhetoric from Moscow before the announcements in Warsaw, [redacted]

— on Soviet military moves: there is no indication of significant change in Soviet military posture as far as we know.

Other Issues:

Contact with the USSR: The Secretary indicated in Brussels he had asked the Department to get in touch with Ambassador Dobrynin. Ambassador Stoessel met this afternoon with the Soviet DCM Bessmertnykh. We are acknowledging the meeting, noting that they discussed Poland among other subjects.

Contact with Poland: Beyond what Fischer said (which was "The Department of State has been in touch with the Polish Government through the Polish Ambassador in Washington, seeking clarification of government actions and purposes."), we may state that here and in Warsaw we remain in touch with the Polish government.

State Dept. review completed

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Safety of Americans: We have no indication of any danger to Americans. We have been informed by the Government of Poland that foreigners may leave. If asked about travel arrangements since the airports are closed, we should note that we do not have any information at this time about possible travel arrangements. (Note: A travel advisory is in preparation and may be used with the press once it has been issued.)

Possible NATO action: Refer to Fischer statement (which was that the Secretary is sending a personal message to all NATO Foreign Ministers and that we will continue to consult closely with our Allies) and refer any other questions to the Secretary's party in Brussels.

Effect on CSCE or INF: We have nothing on that; don't speculate.

Economic or other Sanctions: We are not going to speculate on that sort of thing.

Walesa: The Polish government has stated that Lech Walesa has not been arrested. The spokesman says Walesa held high-level talks in Warsaw with government officials.

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